

Procedure for Care of Deceased persons with high risk infectious illness

Individuals directly handling the body bags with human remains are required to wear PPE**

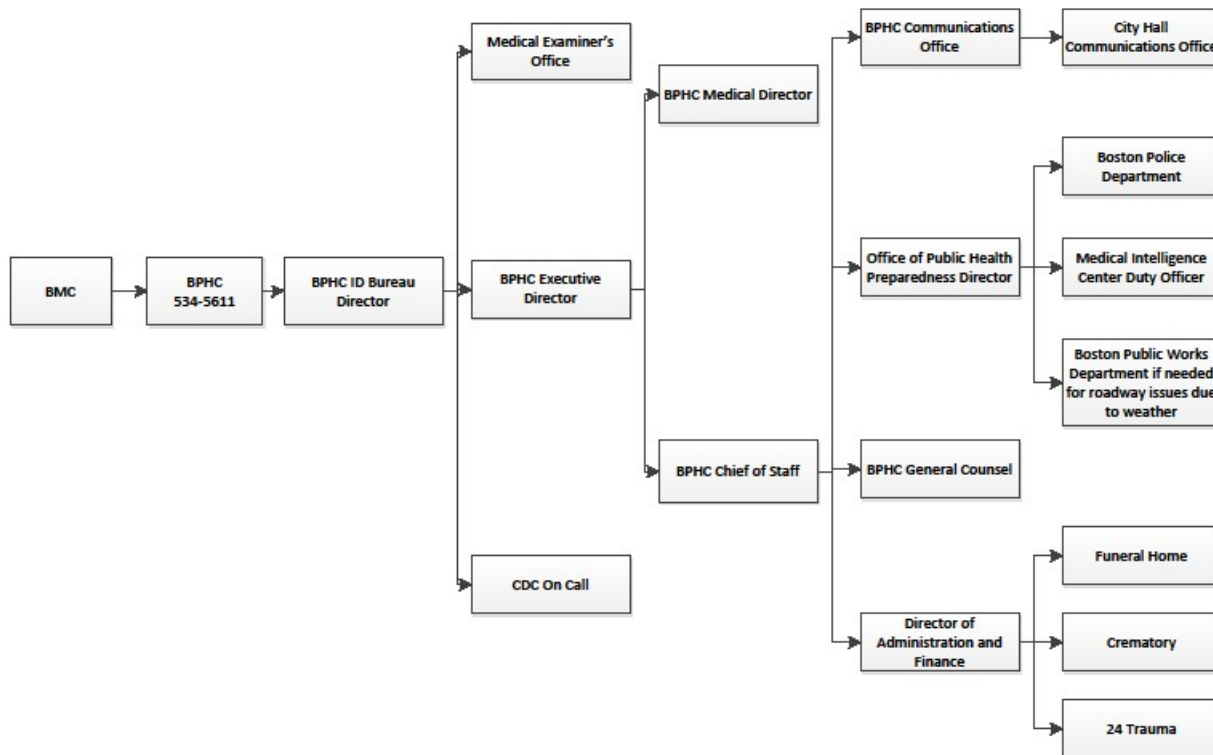
This protocol is in compliance with the Boston Public Health Commission, City of Boston Board of Health Protocol for Handling the Remains of a Person who Dies with Viral Hemorrhagic Fever or Other Specified Infectious Diseases signed on 11/16/15.

1. Permission for cremation

- € A Decedent Affairs representative will meet with the family of the deceased individual and counsel them that cremation is the only available means for a safe final disposition.
- € The representative will encourage the family to voluntarily sign the Cremation Authorization form.
- € If necessary, a BPHC representative will sign the Cremation Authorization form and issue a Board of Health Order for Cremation to be submitted to the Crematory along with all other necessary documents.
- € BPHC will activate their notification protocol

*Plastic body bag must be at least 150 µm thick

** PPE required includes: Impervious coverall, apron, double gloves, foot covers, and PAPR with disposable hood.



1. Preparation of the body for the Medical Examiner

- € Preparation is done at the site of death
- € Leave any intravenous lines or endotracheal tubes that may be present in place
- € Avoid washing or cleaning the body
- € Wrap the body in a plastic shroud - prevent contamination of the outside of the shroud.
- € After wrapping, immediately place body in a leak-proof plastic body bag* and zipper closed
- € Change your apron and gloves (If they are heavily contaminated with blood or body fluids doff out and don clean PPE before moving to the next step).
- € Wipe the outside of the body bag with bleach wipes.
- € The bagged body will remain at the site of death until examined by the Medical Examiner.
- € Change your apron and gloves

2. Medical Examiner

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- € Medical Examiner will view the remains at the treating hospital, reading the chart, and viewing the remains as the ME deems appropriate.
- € If the ME needs to enter the room, s/he will use appropriate infection control precautions.

3. Final Preparation of the body for transport

- € The remains will be placed in two additional bags, wiping after each time with an approved disinfectant.
- € The remains will then be placed into the supplied casket, suitable for cremation, provided by the Funeral Director. The casket will have an additional liner.
- € Close the casket and wipe with an approved disinfectant.

4. Transport of the body to the morgue loading area

- € A clean stretcher and plastic slide board to be placed at the ante space demarcation line (clean side).
- € The bed will be moved to the demarcation line but remain on the dirty side.
- € The slide board will be used to move the deceased to the clean stretcher.
- € Two staff members will transport the deceased to the morgue loading area using standard precautions.
- € Public Safety will clear the route of travel.
- € The deceased will be transported directly from the unit via a waiting service elevator to the Menino basement morgue hallway through the tunnels to the funeral home pick up location for transport away from BMC to the pre-arranged crematory.

5. Cleaning the room

- € Reusable equipment should be cleaned and disinfected according to standard procedures.
For more information on environmental infection control, please refer to "Interim Guidance for Environmental Infection Control in Hospitals for Ebola Virus" (<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/environmental-infection-control-in-hospitals.html>).

6. Vehicular Transportation of human remains

- € Funeral Director [REDACTED] (Type 3 Licensed Funeral Director) will transport the remains to [REDACTED] using standard precautions.
- € Transportation to the Crematory will include Boston Police Department, and if needed for weather related concerns Department of Public Works.

- € Transportation will also include 24/Trauma to the crematory, crematory staff will do the placement of the remains in retort.

7. Documentation

- € The Death Certificate for the deceased person will be submitted on-line through the VIP System <https://gateway.hhs.state.ma.us/authn/index.jsphn> in the Virtual Gateway
- € Treating hospital will start the record in the Vital Information System.
- € If the Pronouncing Physician is an e-certifier they can e-certify.

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- € If the Pronouncing Physician is not an e-certifier they can sign the fax attestation form and fax into the record in VIP.
- € [REDACTED] Type 3 Licensed Funeral Director will claim record and complete the record based on the Informant Verification Form.
- € BPHC and/or Funeral Director will get the Medical Examiner/Forensic Investigator form from hospital staff.
- € Certificate for [REDACTED] along with the on-line Cremation Certificate will be signed and given to Funeral Director.
- € The Burial Agent will check the record for completeness and accuracy, the permit will be issued, the permit will be released for cremation only. BPHC will issue the permit and provide to the Funeral Director and [REDACTED].
- € 24/Trauma will be on site, if their services are needed.

The Boston Public Health Commission will only approve cremation as the final disposition of any remains, as burial in the Commonwealth will not be an option.

Boston Public Health Commission will not issue a Permit for any whole body and/or any body parts to leave the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for burial in another state or another country

The treating hospital will be unable to issue a Non-Contagious Disease certification

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